

HABS, ALA, 49-MOBI, 38

ALABAMA

STATE

Mobile (49)

COUNTY

MOBILE

TOWN or VICINITY

105

278

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STRUCTURE

PORTIER, BISHOP MICHAEL., HOUSE

(AL-37)

* includes 1
caption pg.

307 Conti St. Frame with clapboarding (gallery plastered), 46'-4" (five-bay front) x 57'-5 3/4", one-and-a-half stories, gable roof extending over full-length galleries front and rear, two interior chimneys, ornate dormers (segmentally arched pediments, denticulated cornice, engaged Tuscan-order colonnettes), front gallery balustraded

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with slender Tuscan-style colonnettes, main doorway framed by full Tuscan-order architrave, leaded sidelights and transom; center hall plan, notable Federal-period interior woodwork, curved stair with unusual arrow-shaped balusters; rare use in Alabama of casement windows; stuccoed brick underground cistern in backyard. Built ca. 1834 for the Rev. Michael Portier (1795-1859), first bishop of Roman Catholic Diocese of Mobile; restored 1958. Best surviving example in City of "Creole cottage" with Federal-period detail. Home during 1870s of Father Abram J. Ryan,



(AL-37)

"Poet-Priest of the Confederacy." 9 sheets (1934-1935, including site plan, elevations, plans, section, details); 4 ext. photos (1935), 9 ~~int.~~ int. photos (1963), 12 int. photos (1935), 3 int. photos (1963); 3 data pages (1936). NR.

Card prepared 1979